January 25 - February 7, 2013

Gov. Deval Patrick’s plan goes through. Americans and Hispanics are higher than community Development. “Whether you are Caucasian or Asian representatives.

The Cape Cod African Drum and Dance Group performed at the MLK luncheon on Jan. 11.

The only bilingual Chinese-English Newspaper in New England

Pam Eddinger, president of Bunker Hill Community College

Mary Tran, executive director of the Mass. Office for Refugees and Immigrants.

Sarah Kim, general counsel for the Mass. State Treasury

Janelle Chan, Undersecretary of Housing and Community Development

QARI hosts 11th annual community banquet

BY SHIRA LAUNCHARON

The Chinatown Resident Association Quincy Asian Resources Inc. (QARI) hosted 560 guests at its 11th annual Community Banquet, held on May 11 at the China Pearl Restaurant in Quincy. The “Investing in Our Community” event recognized three honorees, in a celebration of spirit and synergy. “Investing in Our Community” means that we will do the right thing when times are tough,” said QARI CEO Philip Chong. “We will be cautious in terms of our environment, preserve our language and culture, and do the right things for justice, financial decisions, and health and mind.”

The evening began with a rhythmic performance by drum group Odaiako New England. The Founders’ Award was given to Tim Wismar, the president of the congregation at Wollaston Lutheran Church, which is a majority Chinese church. The Visionary Award was handed to John Lydon, who was president of the Quincy City Council for 18 years. Finally, the Community Partner Award was presented to the South Shore YMCA, which has been a strong supporter of QARI, building community spirit. During the banquet, students were recognized for their scholarship, and QARI’s Got Talent winner Lien To sang a passionate rendition of “One Moment in Time.”

QARI’s mission is to empower Asian Americans in Quincy and neighboring communities by advancing their social, cultural, economic and civic lives. The Asian American population is evolving in Quincy and is currently at 27 percent, said QARI development and communications manager Angela Chai.

Asian American Commission celebrates diversity at Unity Dinner

Statehouse hosts first dragon and lion eye-dotting ceremony

O’Donnell. Because of this growth, QARI is expanding to serve younger families and offer more career readiness programs, as well as creating events like the banquet that unite Asian Americans from the neighborhood.
Event Calendar

Neighborhood Committee meeting will take place at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, email BCCNC@gmail.com.

Free evening meals Every Tuesday to Friday 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. 54 Eastern Avenue Malden, MA 02148 Bread of Life offers free evening meals for low-income families and individuals in the metro North area. Evening meals are served Tuesday at Bread of Life, Wednesday and Thursday at 215 Main Street and Friday at 493 Main Street. For more information, call (781) 397-0404.

ARTSE South End Party Tuesday, May 22 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. 460 Harrison Avenue Boston, MA 02118 Washington Gateway Main Street presents ARTSE, a party to enjoy music, food and drinks among art. All proceeds go toward the launch of WGMS’s public arts initiative.

Golden Age Center gala Wednesday, May 23 6 p.m. 9 Tyler Street Boston, MA 02111 The Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center banquet will take place at the China Pearl. For tickets, please call (617) 990-3319.

Breakfast seminar Thursday, May 24 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 120 Shawmut Street Boston, MA 02118 All are welcome to attend at the B Cecil auditorium, the former South Cove Manor location. Refreshments provided. For more information, call Terry Yin at (203) 893-7963.

Free social service clinic Thursdays 9 a.m. to noon 244 Harrison Street Boston, MA 02111 Enhance Asian Community on Health will help people at American Chinese Christian Education & Social Services with health insurance and benefits. For appointments, call EACH at (617) 472-3224.

BCNC annual meeting Thursday, May 24 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. 99 Albany Street Boston, MA 02111 Boston Chinatown Neighbor- hood Center will host its annual meeting at the Pao Arts Center. RSVP at https://bit.ly/2IPqFDB.

Summer resource fair Friday, May 25 11 a.m. 1350 Blue Hill Avenue Boston, MA 02115 The third Summer Resource Fair for family summer activities and classes will take place at the Mattapan Library.

Exercise workshop Friday, May 25 1 p.m. 11 New Whitney Street Boston, MA 02115 Learn about heart health at RTH Community Center, room 117. Register at (617) 767-1071.

National Dragon and Lion Dance Championships May 25 to May 27 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. 100 Coddington Street Quincy, MA 02169 The first National Dragon and Lion Dance Championships will take place at Quincy High School and Empire Garden. Register online at www.nwdif.org.


Short Waves screening Thursday, May 31 Wellesley Public Schools seeks the following positions for school year 2018-2019:

- Fitness & Health Teacher
- Spanish Teacher
- Special Education Teacher
- English Teacher
- Drama Teacher
- Teaching Assistants
- Substitute Teachers

To apply please visit our website: https://wellesley.org/hr/employment-opportunities/

WPS is an EEO/AA Employer
Pam Eddinger connects education with community

BY LING-MEI WONG

Pam Eddinger is the first Chinese American president of Bunker Hill Community College. (Image courtesy of BHCC.)

President of Bunker Hill Community College Pam Eddinger lights up when she talks about her family. Born Pam Yue in Hong Kong, she and her family moved to Miami as age 11 to join her maternal uncle.

“My parents gave up a middle-class life in Hong Kong to move to Miami to provide better property,” Eddinger said. “They came to the United States for the education of their three kids.”

Eddinger started at Bunker Hill Community College in July 2013. As the first Chinese-American president in the history of the Massachusetts Community College System, Eddinger leads the largest est-two-year college in Massachusetts, with more than 18,000 students annually. She previously served as president of Moorpark College in California and as an administrator at Massachusetts Bay Community College. Bunker Hill Community College is one of the most diverse institutions in the Commonwealth, with African American, Latino and Asian students making up almost 70 percent of the student body. International students represent 107 countries.

Bunker Hill Community College Foundation board director Nick Chau was impressed by Eddinger’s commitment, after working with her over four years. “What distinguishes Pam is her helpfulness and integrity,” Chau said. “Her warmth makes you feel like you’re part of the family.”

“The college and I thought I was leaving my culture behind,” Eddinger said. “Now I’m here as a professional to join a campus where they own Boston is not my original home, I felt a sense of returning nonetheless. Not in the physical space, but in a more universal sense of what it means to be Chinese American, Asian American, immigrant and American.”

Bunker Hill Community College’s community partnerships include the Pao Arts Center in Chinatown with the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, which offers classes and a space for artists. The College launched the Center for Equity and Cultural Wealth, which brings together three equity-in-education efforts that it has been fostering over the last decade. It includes the work of the Latino Institute, in which the College is partnering with the City of Chelsea and the Gaston Institute at UMass Boston; the Asian American Institute, anchored by an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions federal grant; and an Africana Culture Institute from a collaboration with the Museum of African American History. These efforts integrate the students and faculty into the external world, and reinforce the connection between education success and the cultural assets in their communities.

“There’s a reciprocity between the community and college,” Eddinger said. “We plan to have further conversation on supporting the community and promoting equity.”

Asian Women for Health conference looks at health insurance

BY THE SAMPAN EDITORIAL TEAM

Asian Women for Health held its sixth annual conference May 10 at the New England Carpenters Training Center. (Image courtesy of AWHP.)

Asian Women for Health conference looks at health insurance

BY THE SAMPAN EDITORIAL TEAM

Asian Women for Health held its sixth State of Asian Women’s Health in Massachusetts conference “Accessing ACOs: Asians, Challenges and Opportunities with MassHealth” May 10 at the New England Carpenters Training Center.

Accountable care organizations (ACO) are a new MassHealth category. Panelists from the community and care providers spoke about challenges ACOs face in serving Asian women. Conference goals were to increase stakeholders’ understanding of MassHealth ACOs and their impact on population health, in particular Asian women’s health; and facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration to identify solutions to bridge service gaps and reduce health disparities among Asian women.

Former refugee Mary Truong leads state resettlement agency with grace

BY LING-MEI WONG

Mary Truong came to America as a refugee with her eight siblings, grandmother and father after the Vietnam War. Today, she leads the Massachusetts Office of Immigrants and Refugees (ORI) as its executive director.

“When I first came, we didn’t have anything,” Truong said. “We had to flee, as we were going to be killed. My father told us it was most important the family was together, not our material belongings.”

Truong was 14 when she left a comfortable home in Vietnam and settled in Pennsylvania. She enjoyed success in finance and health care, before being sworn in as ORI executive director on August 2015.

“Refugees undergo much more vetting than immigrants, who are here by choice. If you don’t like it, you can go back to where you came from. But a refugee cannot go back, they might be killed.”

Mary Truong is the executive director of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants. (Image courtesy of ORI.)

Truong’s office helps track how many refugees are placed in jobs during their first eight months in the country. ORI contracts with service providers to help refugees learn English, find jobs and become citizens. ORI is funded primarily through the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.

“I share this with new refugees, that it takes time to achieve the American dream or get to where they want to go. The important thing is to feel safe and at peace,” Truong said. “A refugee adult only gets $428 a month, and this is not enough to pay rent; for instance, rent for a Boston apartment averages around $1,200. Thus, they must work as soon as possible.”

During federal fiscal year 2017, ORI served 1,219 new refugees and 774 individuals with other qualifying immigration statuses.

Statehouse hosts first dragon and lion eye-dotting ceremony

The United States Dragon and Lion Dance Federation held an inaugural lion and dragon head eye-dotting ceremony May 14 at the Statehouse. (Image courtesy of Diana Jeong.)

The United States Dragon and Lion Dance Federation held an inaugural lion and dragon head eye-dotting ceremony May 14 at the Statehouse.

Affordable Housing Lottery

BRANDYWINE VILLAGE – FRANKLIN, MA

4-Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Colonial Style Home

Price: $247,000

Lottery Date: Wednesday, June 13, 2018 6:00 PM

Municipal Building, Franklin, MA

Info Session: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 6:00 PM

Municipal Building, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA

Applications and Information Packet available at the Franklin Public Library, the Municipal Building, and downloadable from www.franklinkim.gov/Municipal-Affordable-Housing-Trust

There is a household priority based on need for bedrooms.

Household Income Limits: 4 Person: $81,000; 5 Person: $87,000; 6 Person: $94,000; 7 Person: $100,000 Contact Maxine Kinhart at 508-520-4949

Contemporary apt with condo quality finishes and amenities. Single level and townhomes. Easy access to Rte 128, 9 & Mass Pike.

Income guidelines may apply. 844-721-1176 TTY: 711 Woodlandstationapts.com

Mary Truong is the executive director of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants. (Image courtesy of ORI.)

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Sarah Kim gives back at Mass. Treasury

BY LING-MEI WONG


Sarah Kim loves going to work. As a Massachusetts Deputy Treasurer and Treasury General Counsel, Kim manages the legal team for Treasurer Debra Goldberg, giving counsel on programming and overseeing the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission.

“My day is never boring,” Kim said. “This is the best job I’ve ever had.”

Kim’s parents came to America in the 1960s as graduate students in Ohio. After meeting through a Korean student association, they married and had two daughters.

“My parents came to pursue the American Dream,” Kim said.

Her father studied engineering — an opportunity that would have been out of reach for a country boy in South Korea. Kim’s mother was the youngest of three children and also found America a place for her dreams. The family came to Massachusetts in the 1980s when Kim’s father accepted a job offer from RCA. Kim attended public school before going on to college and law school.

“When I went to law school, I planned to do public work,” Kim said.

She gained litigation experience in private practice at firms in San Francisco and Boston, before coming to the Treasury in 2015 when Goldberg started her administration.

Goldberg said, “I was very pleased when at the beginning of my administration, Sarah Kim joined our team as my General Counsel. Sarah is one of my most knowledgeable and trusted advisors, offering legal guidance to the entire State Treasurer’s Office. She has served the Commonwealth with distinction, and within two years I was delighted to promote her to the additional role of one of my Deputy Treasurers. Sarah approaches her work with the utmost professionalism and steadfast dedication. We are fortunate to have someone with the skills, talent, and commitment to public service that Sarah Kim exhibits every day.”

Goldberg’s Office of Economic Empowerment has programs which impact the Asian American community, such as the Women’s Economic Empowerment Series (WEES) and SoaMA, which held two seminars in Mandarin in Quincy on the importance of credit and savings, while SoaMA opens college savings accounts for middle school students. Lowell Middle School was in the pilot program, so materials were available in Kijmer for the Cambodian community.

The Treasury launched a 401K retirement program geared toward nonprofits, where employees are predominantly women and people of color, helping them plan for the future.

“The Treasurer’s really interested in helping families and communities,” Kim said.

The Treasury houses the Asian American Commission, providing an office and meeting space.

Sarah Kim gives back at Mass. Treasury

Sarah Kim joined the legal department of the credit union in 2005. She started her career in law, specializing in business law and real estate. Kim then joined the legal department of a non-profit organization, where she worked on various matters including the management of the organization’s investment portfolio.

“I started my career in Massachusetts as a community advocate and urban planner,” said Kim. “I am very excited to be part of the Mass. Treasury team.”

Janelle Chan leads state housing team

BY THE OFFICE OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development announced Janelle Chan as Undersecretary for Housing and Community Development.

“I started my career in Massachusetts as a community advocate and urban planner, leading the Asian Community Development Corporation and taking significant housing development projects from concept to reality, so it is a tremendous opportunity to work on housing matters at the state level,” Chan said.

Boston Asian YES invites adolescent expert

BY VALERIE LI

Psychologist Penny Haney, gave a talk about brain developmental science at Boston Asian Youth Essential Services on May 9. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

“Adolescence can start at the age of 12 and last through 25, said clinical and forensic psychologist Penny Haney of Boston College.

MBTA NOTICE TO BIDDERS

- Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Bid Express until the date and time stated below, and will be posted on www.bidx.com forthwith after the bid submission deadline.

- No paper copies of bids will be accepted.

- Bidders must have a valid digital ID issued by the Authority in order to bid on projects.

- Bidders need to apply for a digital ID with Bid Express at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

The work is a part of the MBTA initiative to bring the track and signal system between Beaconsfield Station and Riverside Station into a state of good repair. This segment of the system between Beaconsfield Station and Riverside Station is part of the Green Line’s D (Highland) Branch. The signal improvements include replacing the existing obsolete 25Hz track circuits and their associated distributed frequency converter network with modern solid-state 100Hz track circuits powered locally from each control instrument house (CIH). The signal improvements will be achieved by (1) replacing the wayside signal cases with new CIH’s (fabricated by the MBTA, installed by the Contractor), (2) providing two new CIH’s for the Reservoir and Grove Street interlockings, (3) providing approximately 6.5 miles of new wayside aerial cable and cable support system on reconstruction.

Discrimination, and Affirmative Action Program in the specifications. The DBE goal associated with this contract is 14%, the Authority strongly encourages the use of Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises as prime contractors, subcontractors and suppliers in all of its contracting opportunities.

Additional information and instructions on how to submit a bid are available at http://www.massdot.com/business_center/bidding_solicitations/current_solicitations/
Chinatown Coalition discusses hotel hiring and neighborhood developments

BY LING-MEI WONG

The Chinatown Coalition met May 10 at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center. Local developments were discussed, including housing, and improvements, a new hotel and community outreach efforts.

Ed Flynn, Boston City Councilor for District 2, gave a legislative update after being on the job since Jan. 1. District 2 includes Chinatown and the South End. Flynn has been working on improvements to the Josiah Quincy Elementary School, ensuring access to housing in the face of rising rentals and implementing bilingual street signs by the end of summer.

Flynn said, “My job is to resolve problems the community has.”

The AC Hotel Boston Downtown at 225 Albany Street has exceeded hiring targets for diversity, said Jane Lee, Colwen Management talent acquisition manager. Hotel staffers are 29 percent minorities, above the target of 25 percent, and women represent 30 percent, over its target of 25 percent. Boston residents make up 34 percent of hotel staff, below its target of 50 percent. New locations will open in Chelsea, Roxbury, Cleve- land Circle and Quincy.

The Greater Boston Chinese Elderly Care Center is working on a smoke-free living program, one of seven agencies sponsored by Tufts Medical Center’s Asian Health Initiative. Smoking cessation workshops took place at five senior housing locations, said Catherine Chang. The program has worked with 35 smokers, with five quitting and others cutting down on their daily intake of cigarettes.

Chinatown crime blotter for May 4 to May 18

BY THE BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

All reports are submitted by the Bos- ton Police Department. The time period is from May 4 to May 18 for District A-1, which includes Chinatown.

To report a crime or suspicious activity, call 911. Interpreters are available for Chinese speakers.

Larceny
May 7, 5:57 p.m.: The victim reported an unknown person stole his backpack while waiting for a bus on Beach Street.

Drug arrest
May 9, 9:13 p.m.: The suspect was arrested on Oxford Street for possession of a controlled substance. She had what appeared to be crack cocaine.

Larceny
May 13, 5:33 a.m.: The victim reports unknown person stole his cell phone while being treated at the hospital on Washington Street.

Carjacking
May 14, 4:22 a.m.: The victim reported his motor vehicle, the suspect jumped into his motor vehicle, struck him with the vehicle and driven off. The sus- pect was apprehended in Dorchester with the victim’s motor vehicle. The suspect was placed under arrest.

South Cove Manor looks forward to another year of Asian elder success

BY VALERIE LI

South Cove Manor at Quincy Point held its annual meeting and dinner banquet at the China Pearl Restaurant in Quincy on May 15. Founded in 1985, South Cove Manor has provided rehabilita- tion and skilled nursing care to seniors in the greater Boston area.

Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch recognized the organization’s efforts. “South Cove has become a great asset to the city in many respects,” he said. “South Cove sits on a very prominent piece of the real estate in the city and it has truly changed the landscape of the section in a real posi- tive way, thanks to the employees who provided care to our senior citizens.”

Massachusetts Department of Health assistant commissioner Elizabeth Chen thanked the South Cove Manor com- munity for providing culturally sensitive care to Asian elders.

The event honored outstanding staff members at South Cove Manor. Nurses Tina Guan and Sherille Vergara were given the Schlichte Learning Center/ South Cove Manor Nursing Facilities Foundation scholarships. The scholar- ship will support their professional de- velopment.

Rehabilitation Unit nurse managers Andrew Hsai and Amor Liaga received The Ting/Mugar Outstanding Leadership Awards for their dedication in seamless delivery of services to their patients.

Workforce Housing Lottery

Homes Beverly

110 Rantoul Street, Beverly, MA

www.s-e-b.com/properties/rental-developments/

Fourteen 80% AMI Units: Studios @ $1,375, 1BRs @ $1,434*, Four 2BRs @ $1,693*

Two 110% AMI Units: 1BR @ $2,040*, 2BR @ $2,421*

*Rents subject to change in 2019. Utilities not included. Tenants will pay own Gas Heat and Hot Water and Electricity (Cooking is electric). Water and Sewer. Parking is not included in the rent and is estimated at $125/mo.

Beverly is a 67 unit rental apartment community. 14 of these apartments will be available to households with incomes at or below 80% AMI and 2 units will be available to households with incomes at or below 110% AMI. Of the 80% units, there are 4 Disabled-Accessible Units (one studio, two 1BRs and one 2BR). All units include chef’s kitchens with electric cooking, floor-to-ceiling windows, painted wood cabinets, walk-in/toilet closets, hard surface flooring (no carpet), and in-unit washers/dryers.

The community and clubhouse has telecommuting enabled offices, secure bike storage, and a covered dog walk (community is pet-friendly but there are breed and size restrictions on dogs).

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits for 80% units:

$60,368 (1 person), $68,992 (2 people), $77,616 (3 people), $86,240 (4 people)

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits for 110% units:

$83,006 (1 person), $94,864 (2 people), $106,722 (3 people), $118,580 (4 people)

Completed Applications and Required Income Documentation must be received, not postmarked, by 2pm on June 26th, 2018.

A Public Info Session will be on May 16th, 2018 at 6 pm in the Beverly Public Library (32 Essex Street). The lottery will be held on July 16th, 2018 at the same location. Applications and Information available at the Beverly Free Library (open M-Th 9am-9pm, F-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5).

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.s-e-b.com/lottery or call (617)782-6900 (x1) and leave a message. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available.
Criminal justice reform dominates Suffolk County district attorney forum

BY YIYAN ZHENG

The Reserve at Spring Hill
47 Street, Rehoboth MA
Affordable Housing Lottery
www.s-e-b.com

The first affordable homes will be ready in Fall/Winter 2018.

By Ling-Mei Wong

Shawmut-Washington proposal would increase housing and community space

By Ling-Mei Wong

The Granby Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

Executive Director or Management Agreement

The Granby Housing Authority is accepting applications for a part-time (18 hours per week) Executive Director for 56 elderly/handicapped units and 11 family units. Minimum requirements include at least 2 years of experience in housing, community development, public administration or a closely related field. Computer proficiency is required, as well as excellent verbal and written communication skills and the willingness to work with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Applicants must be bondable. Certification as a Public Housing Manager from a HUD- or DHCD-approved organization is required or must be obtained within 1 year of employment. Salary to be determined based on DHCD guidelines.

Please submit a cover letter and resume with 3 references by May 23, 2018 to: Granby Housing Authority Executive Director Search 50 Phins Hill Manor Granby, MA 01033 The Granby Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

The Granby Housing Authority also will entertain proposals for a Management Contract with another area housing authority.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Keeping your teenagers tobacco free

BY THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Concerned parents may have more power over whether their children start using tobacco than they think they do. Research has shown that teens whose parents often talk with them about the dangers of smoking are about half as likely to smoke as those who don’t have these discussions with their parents. This holds true whether or not the parents are smokers themselves.

Here are some tips from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for parents to help keep their kids tobacco-free:

- Remember that despite the impact of movies, music, the internet, and peers, parents can be the greatest influence in their kids’ lives.
- Talk with your children about the risks of tobacco use. If loved ones have died from tobacco-related illnesses, let your kids know. Let them know that using tobacco strains the heart, damages the lungs and can cause a lot of other health problems, including cancer. Also mention what it can do to the way a person looks and smells: smoking makes hair and clothes stink, causes bad breath, and stains teeth and fingernails. Spit and smokeless tobacco can cause bad breath, stained teeth, tooth decay, tooth loss, and bone loss in the jaw.
- Start talking about tobacco use when your children are five or six years old and continue through their high school years. Many kids start using tobacco by age 11. And many are addicted by age 14.
- Know if your kids’ friends use tobacco. Talk about ways to say “no” to tobacco.
- Talk to your kids about the false glamourization of tobacco in the media, such as ads, movies, and magazines.
- The children of parents who smoke are much more likely to smoke themselves. But even if you use tobacco, you can still influence your kids’ decisions. You might even have more power, because you’ve been there. Your best move, of course, is to quit. Meanwhile, don’t use tobacco around your children, don’t offer it to them, and don’t leave it where they can easily get it. You can speak to your child firsthand about: how you got started and what you thought about it at the time, how hard it is to quit, how it has affected your health, and what it costs you, financially and socially.
- If you can, keep your home smoke-free. Don’t smoke indoors, and don’t let anyone else do it either. If you have a car or vehicle, make it smoke-free too.

African American children are more likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke than any other racial or ethnic group. (Image courtesy of Adobe Stock user weepart1.003.)

African American children are more likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke, study finds

BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Black or African American is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as “a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.” There were over 42 million African Americans in the United States in 2014 — approximately 13 percent of the U.S. population. Although African Americans usually smoke fewer cigarettes and start smoking at an older age, they are more likely to die from smoking-related diseases than whites.

Tobacco use is a major contributor to the three leading causes of death among African Americans: heart disease, cancer and stroke.

Diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death among African Americans. The risk of developing diabetes is 30 to 40 percent higher for cigarette smokers than nonsmokers. African American youth and young adults have significantly lower prevalence of cigarette smoking than Hispanics and whites.

Although the prevalence of cigarette smoking among African American and white adults is the same, African Americans smoke fewer cigarettes per day.

On average, African Americans initiate smoking at a later age compared to whites. African American children and adults are more likely to be exposed to secondhand smoke than any other racial or ethnic group.

Most African American adult cigarette smokers want to quit smoking, and many have tried.

During 2011-2012, secondhand smoke exposure was found in:

- 10.7 percent of African American adults aged 3–11 years.
- 24.4 percent of African American adolescents aged 12–19 years.
- 9.7 percent of African American adults aged 20 years and older.

African American nonsmokers generally have higher cotinine levels (an indicator of recent exposure to tobacco smoke) than nonsmokers of other races/ethnicities.

HOUSING: Project could add 537 homes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

The building would house the church worship space and activity areas on the lower floors, and have housing on the upper floors to offset building costs. It would consolidate BCEJC’s services into one site, as the church owns the 249 Harrison Avenue building along with the 237 Harrison Avenue office building.

The public comment period for the PDA has been extended until June 1. The project then will be voted on by the BPDA board. Community members can give input at https://bit.ly/2LoMSPY.

Affordable Housing Lottery

Alta Easterly

50 Cricket Lane, Walpole MA

First units will be available in Summer/Fall of 2018.

To apply: submit completed application form and required income documentation to the Affordable Housing Lottery, 247 Harrison Avenue, Rehoboth, MA 02769. Applications also available at Walpole Public Library on 143 School Street.

Alta Easterly is a 157 unit rental apartment community located in Walpole. 40 of these apartments will be made available through this application process and rented to households with incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. Units feature Stainless-Steel, Energy-Efficient Appliances, AC, In-Unit WASHER/Dryers are included. Tuvalu’s will pay for Gas Heat, Gas Water Heating, Electric Cooking, and Electricity. *Rents subject to change in 2019.

- 1BRs @ $1,396*, 2BRs @ $1,659*
  (Utilities not included. Tuvalu’s will pay for Gas Heat, Gas Water Heating, Electric Cooking, and Electricity. *Rents subject to change in 2019)

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.a-e-h.com/lottery or call (617) 782-4900 and leave a message. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available.

The Lottery for eligible households will be held on July 22nd, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the Children’s Program Room at Walpole Public Library (143 School Street).

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Applications also available at Walpole Public Library on 143 School Street (M-Th 10-9, Fri 10-5, Sat 10-3) (Summer Hours are M-F 10-9)

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In the spirit of adventure and discovery, filmmaker Robin Lung embarks on an investigation to uncover the true story of the World War II film “Kukan” and the daring woman behind it. Shown as an encore screening at the Pao Arts Center on May 3, “Finding Kukan” is a documentary that unravels the mystery surrounding the production and its charismatic creator, Li Ling-Ai.

“She was a pioneer filmmaker. Why hadn’t I heard of her before?” Lung asks as she pares over archives and evidence, attempting to decipher Ling-Ai’s role in the formation of the film. “Kukan,” which was the first documentary to win an Academy Award, chronicled the story of China during the war, when the country was under Japanese occupation. While the movie could not have been originated without the work of the Chinese-American Ling-Ai, she has gone through history uncredited as its producer, with most recognition being given to writer and cameraman Rey Scott.

Throughout the film, Lung strings together sequences depicting her exploration of “Kukan,” whose title translates as “heroic courage under bitter suffering.” When Ling-Ai first met Scott, described as an “Indiana Jones” character, she dared him to take the next boat to China to record the atrocities of war taking place there. Scott accepted, and he began to shoot footage of turning points, such as the bombing of Chongqing. Meanwhile, Ling-Ai took great measures to keep the movie afloat, even selling family jewels to finance the film. When the documentary debuted in 1941, it was met with much acclaim and reinforced America’s entry into the war.

During the 1940s, anti Chinese sentirment existed in the United States, where Chinese Americans would experience segregation in schools and employment discrimination. These attitudes were perpetuated by legislation such as the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which was intended to ban Chinese immigrants from coming to the United States and deny them citizenship. In this climate, it would have been unheard of for a Chinese woman to be involved in film production. “In order to get ‘Kukan’ into theaters, Li Ling-Ai gives up control of her own film,” Lung says. For this reason, the extraordinary and strong willed Ling-Ai erased herself from the film’s narrative.

“Finding Kukan” asks viewers to look into the hidden histories behind cultures and celebrates the achievements of Ling-Ai, its pivotal producer. By digging into records of the past, the movie uncovers a formerly lost trajectory, bringing it to light and restoring it to contemporary view, recovered.

Asian American Commission celebrates diversity at Unity Dinner

BY VALERIE LI

Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Eddinger (right) received artwork from commissioners Nick Chau (center) and Mabel Lamm (left) at the Asian American Commission’s Unity Dinner on May 3 at Boston University. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission (AAC) held its 12th annual Unity Dinner at Boston University on May 3. This year’s theme was “RepresentASIAN,” which “highlights the extraordinary work of individuals and organizations in our Commonwealth through three awards categories: Leadership for Inclusion and Diversity, Lifetime Achievement and Community Hero,” said executive director Jenny Chiang in statement.

Thillai Fine Arts Academy performed an ancient classical Indian dance called Bharatanatyam. The attendees also enjoyed Cantonese opera music performed by Que Shing Chinese Music and Opera Group during the reception.

Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Eddinger reflected on her personal experience as an immigrant from Hong Kong. She said, “While some will attribute our success to personal talent and the ability to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps and playing into the model minority myth of Asian exceptionalism, we know that the myth is built on our ancestors’ shoulders: The generations that left their dreams on the restaurant floors and kitchens, on factory floors, along with the railroad lines across America and later the entertainment camps.”

Quincy state Rep. Tackey Chan presented an honorary citation from the Massachusetts Asian American Commission celebrating May as the Asian American and Pacific Islanders Heritage month in Massachusetts.

Randaji Saigal of Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her work in bringing digital literacy to remote areas of India with the use of mobile computer labs. Richard Chu was honored with the Community Hero Award for his project to gather stories of migration and settlement of individuals from the Bhutanese, Vietnamese and Filipino communities of Springfield, Mass. The AAC also recognized Wheelock Family Theatre with the Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion Award for serving the community through education and professional theater productions over 37 years.

TRUONG: Passion for ‘helping everyone’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

In federal fiscal year 2018, which begins Oct. 1, 2017 and ends Sept. 30, 2018, no more than 1,000 overseas refugee arrivals are expected in Massachusetts. At the same time, the refugee admissions ceiling was reduced to 45,000. As of April 30, 268 refugees were resettled in Massachusetts.

Truong is honored to give back through her work. “I am passionate about helping everyone,” Truong said. “The beauty of living in America is meeting diverse people from around the world.”

Learn Chinese
Heroiné
nǚ yìng xióng
Located near Coolidge Corner in Brookline, Xiang Yu China Bistro offers a variety of Hunanese dishes. The central China region cuisine is known for its hot and spicy flavors and fresh aroma. Different from the numbing Sichuan-style spiciness, Hunan cuisine commands a wider range of fresh ingredients, especially chilies.

Duck heads ($10.95) are delicious, if cooked the right way. The restaurant is one of the few places that serves马拉鸭头. The well-seasoned small bites are consumed as a snack in China. Dao jiao fish (body for $25.95) is a classic steamed dish from Hunan cuisine. The chopped hot chilies evenly covered the fish, which was seasoned. The fish was tender and spicy.

Beef with black pepper ($16.95) used a good portion of beef and fresh ingredients, such as chili peppers and onions. Though fresh, the vegetables didn’t taste undercooked. Instead, its crunchiness remained on the outside, releasing flavor on the first bite.

Spicy crispy wings ($10.95) are a generous portion for a big group. The well-seasoned wings are crunchy and spicy outside, but juicy and tender inside. Hong Shao Rou ($16.95) is pork belly braised in claypot, known for being Chairman Mao’s biggest crave. Many regions in China compete with their own versions of pork belly, but Hunan does it well with a spicy twist.

Beef with black pepper. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

Hong Shao Rou or braised pork belly at Xiang Yu China Bistro. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

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Rockland Trust is Proud To Celebrate Asian American Heritage Month

Rockland Trust is proud to support organizations that share our commitment to embracing a diverse community.

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Promotion

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Workday

Career

We’re proud to partner with and support organizations that share our commitment to embracing a diverse community.

Beef with black pepper. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

Hong Shao Rou or braised pork belly at Xiang Yu China Bistro. (Image courtesy of Valerie Li.)

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Xiang Yu China Bistro

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